

Final Mock

3/1/20

Foreign Aid : Road to stability or Recipe for Disaster?

A. Introduction.

- a) Hook
- b) Brief explanation of foreign aid.
- c) Thesis statement.

Road to

B. Foreign Aid as a Tool for stability

- a) Safety from bankruptcy
- b) Visible boom in the economy *vague*
- c) Temporary currency stability.
- d) Short term relief after natural disasters
- e) Example: Foreign Aid after Pakistan floods 2012

How does that relate to stability?

Your stance should be specified in the heading

c). Why Foreign Aid is a Recipe for Disaster

a). Aid Dependency That's the issue of government then not aid.

Adopt similar structure for heading throughout the outline.

- Government rely on aid instead of developing local resources
- Weak tax system and poor economic planning. *vague*

How does that relate to aid?

- b)- Misuse of Aid and corruption
- Aid captured by political elites
 - Funds used for personal or political interest

Again that's a problem of state receiving aid not a problem of aid.

- c)- Limit the growth of local industry
- Inflow of aid causes Dutch Disease.
 - local producers cannot compete with cheap imports

- d)- Donor interest and loss of sovereignty

- e)- Unreliable supply of aid.

Stance based topic, follow the structure for that.

D)- Case Studies

- Pakistan long term aid with weak economic outcomes
- Afghanistan massive aid inflows but no sustainable stability
- Africa : aid without strong institutional failure.

Case studies are given as examples within the paragraphs.

E)- Why stability Through Aid is only Temporary.

- short term economic relief
- No longer institutional development
- Economic problems return when aid stops

Not asked.

F). Conclusion

Essay

Foreign aid has long been presented as a powerful tool for promoting economic stability and development in poor and developing countries. Governments, international organizations and donor agencies argue that financial assistance helps countries overcome poverty, stabilize fragile economies and recover from the crises such as wars and natural disasters. Since the second world war, trillions of dollars have been transferred from rich nations to poorer ones in the form of grants, loans and humanitarian assistance and military aid. Despite these massive inflows, many aid recipient countries continue to suffer from economic instability, weak institutions and poor growth performance. This raises a critical question: is foreign aid truly a road to economic stability or has a recipe for disaster? While foreign aid provides short term relief and emergency support, evidence shows that in

Irrelevant detail.

Too long for opening sentences

Your topic does not specify it to economic stability.

Follow the sequence of your outline.

Shirt introduction.

No proper overview of essay

the long run it often creates dependency, encourage corruption, weaken domestic institutions and undermines sustainable economic stability. Therefore, foreign aid is more a recipe for disaster than a reliable path to stability unless it is accompanied by strong governance, accountability and self-reliant economic policies.

Don't add extra detail.

Foreign aid is often viewed as an important tool for economic stability, especially for developing countries facing sudden shocks. One major benefit of foreign aid is safety from bankruptcy, as external financial support helps governments meet urgent expenditures and avoid default during economic crises. Aid inflows can also create a short-term economic boost as increased public spending stimulates

consumption, employment and reconstruction activities. In addition, foreign aid can provide temporary currency stability by increasing foreign exchange reserves and easing balance-of-payment pressures.

Incoherent. Discuss each heading in a separate paragraph.

Foreign aid is particularly effective in providing short-term relief after natural disaster. For example, after the 2022 floods in Pakistan, international assistance helped supply food, shelter and medical

Incoherent. No argumentation and analysis.
No evidence.

care to millions of affected people. It also supported emergency infrastructure repair and prevented immediate economic collapse. However these stabilizing effects are largely temporary and depend on continuous external support, highlighting that foreign aid offers short term stability rather than a permanent solution.

One of the strongest criticism of foreign aid is that it creates aid dependency. When governments rely heavily on external assistance, they lose the incentive to develop domestic sources of revenue such as taxation. This

Conditional argument.

weakens fiscal discipline and encourages poor economic planning. Instead of strengthening institutions and mobilizing internal resources aid dependent governments often focus on satisfying donor requirements. As a result, long-term

Aid isn't causing this reliance.

economic stability is undermined. Aid flows are suddenly reduced or withdrawn

No argumentation and analysis. No evidence.

faces sharp shock. Many African countries illustrate this problem. Despite receiving aid for decades, several remain trapped in low growth and fiscal instability. Aid has replaced, rather than complemented, domestic economic effort.

Another major reason foreign aid becomes a recipe for disaster is corruption. In countries with weak institutions, large inflow of aid create opportunities for rent seeking and misuse of funds. Political elites often divert aid resources for personal gain or political patronage instead of productive investment. Since aid money does not directly come from taxpayers, government feels less accountable to their citizens. This weakens the social contract between the state and the public. Instead of strengthening governance aid often entrenches corrupt elites and authoritarian regimes. The case of Afghanistan is a powerful example. Despite receiving hundreds of billions of dollars in aid over two decades, the country failed to build a self-sustaining economic system.

Foreign aid can also harm economic stability by distorting local market. Large number of

foreign currency can lead to currency appreciation making local exports less competitive. This

phenomenon, known as Dutch Disease, weakens domestic industries and discourage production.

In addition, food aid and subsidized inputs can undermine local farmers and producers who

cannot compete with free and cheap foreign goods. Over time this reduces domestic productive capacity and increases dependence on external support. Many developing countries have experienced deindustrialization despite receiving aid. Instead of promoting self-sustaining growth, aid has often weakened the very sectors needed for long term stability.

Lack of evidence.

Foreign aid is rarely neutral. Donor countries often provide aid to advance their economic, political and security interests. Aid is frequently tied to conditions that reflect donor priorities rather than recipient needs. These conditions may include policy reforms, military cooperation or political alignment. As a result, recipient countries lose policy autonomy and sovereignty. Economic decisions are shaped by external pressure rather than domestic realities. This leads to policy instability and frequent changes in direction, undermining long term economic planning. In many cases, foreign aid has been described as a new form of colonialism, where developing nations become dependent "beggars" rather than self-reliant.

economies. This dependency damages national confidence and limits independent development. Pakistan provides a clear example of how long term foreign aid has failed to deliver economic stability. Since independence Pakistan has received large amounts of economic and military aid from various donors including the United States and international financial institutions. While aid has helped Pakistan avoid short term crises and provide temporary relief it has not resulted in sustainable economic stability. The country continues to suffer from fiscal deficits, weak exports, low tax collection and recurring balance of payment crises. The floods of 2010 and 2022 brought massive foreign aid into Pakistan. This aid helped provide emergency relief, rebuild infrastructure and prevent immediate economic collapse. In the short term it stabilized and supported recovery. However, the long term impact was disappointing. Aid failed to create disaster-resilient infrastructure or improve governance. Misuse and misallocation of funds were widely reported. When aid declined economic vulnerabilities reappeared. This case

GENERAL FEEDBACK FOR ESSAYS

Content (40%)

Your interpretation should be in depth, comprehensive and academic.

Always address the asked part. It should be evident in your outline, which should be self-explanatory in nature. Essays/Outlines that give related information without addressing the asked part do not qualify.

The whole essay should be relevant. Even if 1-2 arguments are irrelevant the essay will not pass.

Distribution of topic should be according to the demand of the topic statement i.e. if there is one scoring point it should be given more weight, if there are 2 or more scoring points all should be given equal weight.

All claims made in the essay must be substantiated. Out of 15-17 arguments at least 9-10 should be academically backed with proper references. The rest should be backed by either case studies or generally known information.

Evidence must be authentic and come from proper and authentic academic sources.

Newspapers do not qualify as an academic source. Illustrations and vague mentions of events do not qualify as academic evidence.

Essays that are lacking in evidence do not qualify.

LANGUAGE (25%)

Focus on enhancing your grammar as any essay with 4-5 grammatical mistakes does not pass.

Your essay must be in the tone and tense of the topic statements. Essays that fail to comply do not pass.

Your sentence structure should be simple, yet clear and diversified.

Vocabulary used should be simple, clear and concise. Expression should always be formal and academic.

You are never to write in 1st and 2nd person pronouns.

You must always use the given keywords and your topic for your thesis statements and main headings in your outline.

STRUCTURE (20%)

Your essay must follow the selected pattern and that structure should be maintained throughout.

INTRODUCTION: The introduction is the longest paragraph of the essay, at least 200 words. It should start with a hook, must give the glimpse of what's to come and must have a thesis statement. Besides hook, your introduction should not have any sort of information and reference. Avoid definitions in introduction.

BODY PARAGRAPHS: Approximately 150 words at most and all the body paragraphs must be consistent in length. Should follow the proper structure of an academic paragraph i.e. it must have a topic sentence, supporting point, evidence and concluding sentence. The topic sentence and concluding sentence must align with each other. There should be no new information in the concluding sentence. One paragraph represents one subheading in the outline and consists of one idea.

CONCLUSION: Must start with the concluding phrase. There should be no new information in the conclusion. It should recap the arguments. Conclusion does not have any examples and information. If you are ending it on a hopeful note, remember that solutions and hope are not the same.

COHERENCE (15%)